

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

<i>Application Number</i>	10/729748
<i>Filing Date</i>	December 5, 2003
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Naoki Shimoyama
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1762
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Alain L. Bashore
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	VTN0601DIV

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US2003/023560 4		McGee et al.	12-25-2003	
		6451871		Winterton et al.	09-17-2002	
		6480250		Matsufuji et al.	11-12-2002	
		4855180		Kawamura	08-08-1989	
		3988274		Masuhara et al.	10-26-1976	
		6348507		Heiler et al.	02-19-2002	
		5662960		Hostettler et al.	09-02-1997	
		6099852		Jen	08-08-2000	
		6286955		Akashi	09-11-2001	
		6428839		Kunzler et al.	08-06-2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	KindCode ⁵				
		JP	158412		Daicel Chemical Industrial Co., Ltd	06-21-1989		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. ⁶ 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.